THE NEW
SUNDAY EXPRESS

BENGALURU • SUNDAY • AUGUST 04, 2024 • ₹12.00 • PAGES 30 • LATE CITY EDITION

CHENNAI • MADURAI • VIJAYAWADA • BENGALURU • KOCHI • HYDERABAD • VISAKHAPATNAM • COIMBATORE • KOZHIKODE • THIRUVANANTHAPURAM • BELAGAVI • BHUBANESWAR • SHIVAMOGGA • MANGALURU • TIRUPATI • TRICHY • TIRUNELVELI • SAMBALPUR • HUBBALLI • DHARMAPURI • KOTTAYAM • KANNUR • VILLUPURAM • KOLLAM • TADEPALLIGUDEM • NAGAPATTINAM • THRISSUR • KALABURAGI

FOURTH PLACE FINISH FOR SHOOTER MANU

While she has already made history with two medals in Paris Olympics, another one at 25 m pistol event, would have sealed Manu Bhaker's legacy among legendary Indian athletes. However, Bhaker finished fourth as she shot 28 in the eight-women final, losing to Hungarian bronze medallist Veronika Major in the shoot-off | P17 | P17

PM: India part of global solution on food security

RAJESH KUMAR THAKUR
@New Delhi

INDIA is now a food surplus country and is working to provide solutions for global food security and nutritional security, Prime Minister Narendra Modi said on Saturday at a global conference of agriculture economists.

The 32nd International Conference of Agricultural Economists organised here after 65 years drew over 1,000 delegates from 70 countries.

Modi said agriculture is at the centre of India's economic policy, adding the recent Union Budget gave a big push to sustainable and climate-resilient farming and developing a complete ecosystem to support Indian farmers.

"After years of sustained efforts, now India is a food surplus country. India is also the number one producer of milk, pulses and spices in the world. Also, the country has become the second-largest producer of food grains, fruits, vegetables, cotton, sugar and tea," Modi said.

The PM recalled that there was a time when India's food security was a concern for the world. "But now, India is working to provide solutions for global food security and global nutritional security."

He said the challenges before sustainable agriculture and food systems can only be tackled through the holistic approach of 'One Earth, One Family and One Future'.

Modi described small farmers as the country's biggest strength for food security. As many as 90% of Indian farmers are smallholders.

Highlighting India's strides sustainable farming, Modi said the country has developed 1,900 new climate-resilient varieties of crops in the last 10 years. He added that India is promoting chemical-free natural and organic farming and moving towards achieving 20% ethanol blending in petrol. "In the Indian agriculture tradition, priority has been given to science and logic. India has a robust system of agricultural education and research based on its heritage," he said.

Modi said black rice from Manipur, Assam and Meghalaya is becoming the preferred choice due to its medicinal value. He also spoke about India's willingness to share its millet basket with the world and how the country is leveraging digital tech in the farm sector.

Search op in last leg; plan to build new township

MANOJ VISWANATHAN
@ Mundakkai

FIVE days after the catastrophic landslides in Wayanad, search and rescue operations for people stranded amid huge piles of debris entered the last phase on Saturday. While 206 people are still missing, chances of finding more survivors appear remote.

Search teams recovered four bodies from Chooralmala and Mundakkai villages, while three bodies and 13 body parts were found in Chaliyar river at Munderi in Malappuram. Though the official records show the number of deceased as 218, the toll is estimated to have crossed 300.

Children play at a relief centre in Wayanad on Saturday | EXPRESS

Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan said the rescue mission is in its final stages. "Till Saturday noon, 215 bodies were recovered, of which 87 are women, 98 are men and 30 children. There are 206 missing. As many as 148 bodies have been handed over to relatives. 206 people are still missing," Pinarayi said.

The IAF deployed helicopters for aerial sorties in search of survivors and people stranded in the affected areas. They airlifted two rescue workers stranded at Soochippara waterfalls.

Pinarayi said the government would build a safe township as part of a comprehensive rehabilitation plan. He said a safe area would be identified for the township. "Proper planning and labour are needed for completing that task quickly. Discussions have been started at the administrative level to build the new township," he said.

DKS exposed CM's role in MUDA scam: HDK

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Bengaluru

UNION Minister for Steel and Heavy Industries **HD Kumaraswamy** on Saturday said that Deputy Chief Minister and KPCC president DK Shivakumar exposed Chief Minister Siddaramaiah's alleged role in getting 14 sites sanctioned by MUDA to his wife Parvathy in Mysuru.

Kumaraswamy said, "It's he (Shivakumar) who made the documents related to the allotment of MUDA sites to Siddaramaiah's wife public. But now he is acting as if he is shielding Siddaramaiah. Shivakumar attacked BJP state president BY Vijayendra by addressing him in singular on Friday to show his unflinching support to Siddaramaiah. When will he stop this drama?"

Kumaraswamy said that the Congress government in the state will not even last 10 more months. Many leaders in the Congress party are ready to stake claim for CM's post, he added. MORE REPORTS: P4

EXPRESS INTAKE

CM will quit soon, says BSY | P4

Rescue ops in final phase; 206 still missing | P5

IT staffers protest 14-hr shift proposal | P5

FIR against Yadgir MLA, son in SI's death; CID to probe case

RAMAKRISHNA BADSESHI
@Yadgir/Kalaburagi

YADGIR police registered an FIR against local Congress MLA Chennareddy Tunnur and his son Pampanagouda alias Sunny Gouda on Saturday under Sections 352, 108, 3(5) and SC/ST (Prevention of Atrocities) Act in connection with the death of Yadgir sub-inspector Parashuram, 34.

The FIR was filed on a complaint by Shwetha NV, wife of Parashuram, after he died under mysterious circumstances in Yadgir on Friday night. Meanwhile, Yadgir SP Sangeeta told *The New Sunday Express* that the case has been transferred to CID for investigation.

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PLUS 12 PAGES MAGAZINE

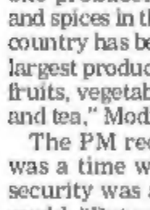
1940 - 2024

Maestro of classical dance

Geetha Chandran
INDIAN CLASSICAL DANCER, TRAINED CARNATIC VOCALIST

YAMINI Krishnamurthy, an influential force in India's dance world and an Asthana Vidhwan (Resident Artist) at the 2,000-year-old Tirumala Tirupati Devasthanams passed away in Delhi on Saturday. She was 84.

In the post-Independence era, she stood out as a true icon of Indian classical dance. She introduced Bharatanatyam to northern India, taking Delhi by storm with her performances. She was not just a master of Bharatanatyam; she also excelled in Kuchipudi and Odissi, bringing a unique versatility to her stage presence.



I had the privilege of watching her performances. Once, I asked her why she adjusted the pace of her pieces when performing in Delhi. She said she often followed legends like Pandit Lachhu Maharaj and Sitara Devi and had to adapt her performance to reach out to her audience and make an impact.

Yamini's ability to innovate while preserving tradition significantly advanced and structured the dance form. Her father, Prof Krishnamurthy, would impeccably introduce her programmes.

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